

§ 959.15**§ 959.15 Committee.**

Committee means the South Texas Onion Committee, established pursuant to § 959.22.

§ 959.16 Fiscal period.

Fiscal period means the annual period beginning and ending on such dates as may be approved by the Secretary pursuant to recommendations of the committee.

§ 959.17 District.

District means each of the geographic divisions of the production area initially established pursuant to § 959.24 or as reestablished pursuant to § 959.25.

§ 959.18 Export.

Export means to ship onions to any destination which is not within the 48 contiguous States, or the District of Columbia, of the United States.

COMMITTEE

§ 959.22 Establishment and membership.

The South Texas Onion Committee, consisting of seventeen members, ten of whom shall be producers and seven of whom shall be handlers, is hereby established. For each member of the committee there shall be an alternate. Producer members and alternates shall not have a proprietary interest in or be employees of a handler organization.

§ 959.23 Term of office.

(a) The term of office of committee members and their respective alternates shall be for two years and shall begin as of August 1 and end as of July 31. The terms shall be so determined that about one-half of the total committee membership shall terminate each year.

(b) Committee members and alternates shall serve during the term of office for which they are selected and have qualified, or during that portion thereof beginning on the date on which they qualify during such term of office and continuing until the end thereof, and until their successors are selected and have qualified.

§ 959.24 Districts.

To determine a basis for selecting committee members, the following districts of the production area are hereby initially established:

District No. 1: (Coastal Bend) The Counties of Victoria, Calhoun, Goliad, Refugio, Bee, Live Oak, San Patricio, Aransas, Jim Wells, Nueces, Kleberg, Brooks, Kenedy, Duval, and McMullen in the State of Texas.

District No. 2: (Laredo) The Counties of Zapata, Webb, and Jim Hogg in the State of Texas.

District No. 3: (Lower Valley) The Counties of Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy in the State of Texas.

District No. 4: (Wilson-Karnes) The Counties of DeWitt, Wilson, Atascosa, and Karnes in the State of Texas.

District No. 5: (Winter Garden) The Counties of Val Verde, Frio, Kinney, Uvalde, Medina, Maverick, Zavala, Dimmit, and La Salle in the State of Texas.

§ 959.25 Redistricting.

The committee may recommend, and pursuant thereto, the Secretary may approve, the reapportionment of members among districts, and the reestablishment of districts within the production area. In recommending any such changes, the committee shall give consideration to:

(a) Shifts in onion acreage within the districts and within the production area during recent years;

(b) The importance of new production in its relation to existing districts;

(c) The equitable relationship of committee membership and districts;

(d) Economies to result for producers in promoting efficient administration due to redistricting or reapportionment of members within districts; and

(e) Other relevant factors. No change in districting or in apportionment of members within districts may become effective less than 30 days prior to the date on which terms of office begin each year and no recommendations for such redistricting or reapportionment may be made less than six months prior to such date.

§ 959.26 Selection.

The Secretary shall select members and respective alternates from districts established pursuant to § 959.24 or